

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
North Dakota Field Office
99 23th Avenue W, Ste A
Dickinson, ND 58601**

**NEPA Compliance Record
For
May 8, 2012 Oil and Gas Lease Sale
Parcels Within:
USFS — Region 1 Little Missouri National Grassland**

Project Location: Slope County, North Dakota

Forest Service Parcel Numbers: 136-099-021

BLM Parcel Number: NDM-97300-KY

Purpose of the NEPA Compliance Record: To adopt and document National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) review of the U.S. Forest Service's (USFS) leasing decisions and recommendations (leasing determinations). The basis for these leasing determinations, including identification of applicable NEPA analysis, is documented in authorization letter dated September 16, 2011.

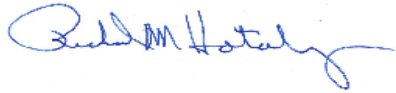
NEPA Review: The USFS decision verification and consent to lease approximately 422.28 acres of the Little Missouri National Grassland is based on the Northern Great Plains Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and is consistent with the Dakota Prairie Grassland Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP), July 2002. New information reviews, per Forest Service Handbook 1909.15, Sec. 18.1, which validated the existing Dakota Prairie Grasslands/Montana State Office Oil and Gas Leasing Record of Decision (ROD) (June 2003), were completed on May 15, 2008, and October 2, 2008. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was a cooperating agency for the FEIS and LRMP and issued Oil and Gas Leasing Decisions as part of the June 2003 ROD.

The USFS consent letter and accompanying decision verification forms identify specific lease stipulations to protect surface resources in conformance with the FEIS/LRMP Oil and Gas Leasing Record of Decision. Standard terms and conditions for oil and gas leasing and development of the lease also apply. Existing NEPA documents address and analyze potential impacts associated with leasing and subsequent development of the lease. This action conforms with and is within the scope of the land use decisions identified above. The existing FEIS and ROD comply with BLM review criteria identified in the BLM NEPA Handbook, section 5.1.

Decision Record and Rationale: It is my decision to offer the parcels approved and recommended by the USFS in their decision verifications and consent letters dated September 16, 2011, for lease at the May 8, 2012 Competitive Lease Sale and issue leases in accordance with the lease sale notice where there are successful bidders.

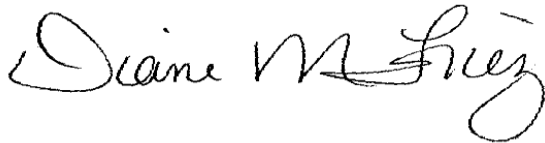
The parcels will be offered with standard lease terms and the special stipulations identified in the subject consent letters and supporting decision verification documents submitted by the USFS. The action is consistent with the BLM policy of making mineral resources available for leasing and development while protecting both surface and subsurface resources, and complies with coordination requirements and responsibilities of the of the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987 (FOOGLRA), 30 U.S.C §181 et seq.

Recommended by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard M. Hotaling".

Richard M. Hotaling
Acting Field Manager
Date May 10, 2012

Concurrence by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane M. Friez".

Diane M. Friez, District Manager
Date May 10, 2012

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Theresa M. Hanley".

Theresa M. Hanley, Deputy State Director, Division of Resources
Date May 11, 2012